

CLAIM(S)

I claim:

[0028] 1. A tripod for supporting a device above a ground surface comprising:

[0029] a) a platform base for supporting the device;

[0030] b) three leg assemblies coupled to the platform base;

[0031] c) three support link assemblies extending in a substantially vertically downward direction to a central point below said base;

[0032] d) three sets of stabilizer links coupled at one end to said central point and at a second end to a respective one of said leg assemblies; and

[0033] e) three caster assemblies coupled to respective ones of said leg assemblies at a distal end thereof, each caster assembly having a stabilizer member acting through said caster assembly so as to bear selectively against the ground surface.

[0034] 2. The tripod of claim 1 wherein each of said leg assemblies comprise a pair of rods having first ends coupled to said platform base a predetermined distance apart and having said distal ends coupled to a foot.

[0035] 3. The tripod of claim 2 wherein said support link assemblies each comprise a pair of members coupled to said base a predetermined distance apart at a first end and coupled together at said central point.

[0036] 4. A tripod stand for supporting a device above a ground surface comprising:

[0037] a) three leg assemblies coupled to a platform base for supporting said device, each said leg assembly having a foot;

[0038] b) three caster assemblies, each respectively coupled to one of said feet, each caster assembly having at least one wheel; and

[0039] c) three stabilizer members selectively and adjustably acting through each said caster assembly, respectively, to engage said ground surface.

[0040] 5. The tripod stand of claim 4 wherein said caster assemblies have at least one wheel.

[0041] 6. The tripod stand of claim 5 wherein each of said caster assemblies includes a pair of wheels.

[0042] 7. The tripod stand of claim 6 wherein said pair of wheels are spaced a predetermined distance apart and said stabilizer member comprises a threaded bolt inserted through a threaded aperture in said foot.

5 [0043] 8. The tripod stand of claim 4 wherein each of said leg assemblies includes a foot having a threaded aperture and wherein said stabilizer member is selectively adjustable through said threaded aperture.

10 [0044] 9. The tripod stand of claim 8 further including a threaded sleeve in each of said foot members, said sleeve surrounding said stabilizer member and selectively rotatable to lock said stabilizer member in position.

[0045] 10. The tripod stand of claim 4 wherein said stabilizer members comprise elongate ground surface engaging members.

15 [0046] 11. The tripod stand of claim 10 wherein said elongate ground surface engaging members are threaded rods.

20 [0047] 12. The tripod stand of claim 11 wherein each of said feet have a threaded aperture adapted to receive said threaded rods.

[0048] 13. The tripod of claim 2 wherein the platform base includes three connector links coupled between said first ends of each of said rods in each respective leg assembly.

25 [0049] 14. A tripod stand for supporting a device above a ground surface comprising:

[0050] a) a platform base;

[0051] b) three foot members engaging the ground surface; and

[0052] c) three sets of interconnected triangular support structures, each said set coupling a respective one of said foot members to said platform base, and each said set of triangular support structures defining triangles in three intersecting planes.

30 [0053] 15. The tripod stand of claim 14 wherein each of said foot members includes a selectively adjustable stabilizer member for engaging the ground surface.

35 [0054] 16. The tripod stand of claim 14 wherein said foot members each include a selectively

detachable wheeled caster assembly.

[0055] 17. The tripod stand of claim 16 wherein said stabilizer member comprises a jack screw interacting through said wheeled caster assembly with said ground surface.

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[0056] 18. The tripod stand of claim 17 wherein each said selectively detachable wheeled caster assembly includes a ball detent retainer selectively engageable with a groove in said jack screw.